

Patent
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M.J.

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1-66 (Cancelled)

Claim 67. (Previously presented) A video merger hub for combining the output signals from a plurality of video cards into a single graphics output signal ^{and} displaying said single graphics output signal on a visual output device comprised of: a video switch; a video switch controller; a microcontroller; and a video output,

wherein said video switch receives said output signals from said plurality of video cards and sequentially routes selected portions of said output signals from said plurality of video cards to said video output,

wherein said video switch is controlled by said video switch controller,

wherein said video switch controller controls said video switch by triggering routing switches at appropriate intervals, and

wherein said routing switch triggering intervals are determined on the basis of: the vertical refresh rate of said output signals from said plurality of video cards; the vertical resolution of said output signals from said plurality of video cards; and the load balancing ratio assigned to each of said plurality of video cards.

Claims 68-71 (Cancelled)

Claim 72. (Previously presented) The video merger hub of claim 67 wherein said load balancing ratio is transmitted by said microcontroller to said video switch controller.

Claim 73. (Previously presented) The video merger hub of claim 67 wherein said load balancing ratio is assigned by a user through software.

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Claim 74. (Previously presented) The video merger hub of claim 67 wherein said load balancing ratio is equal for each of said video cards.

Claim 75. (Previously presented) The video merger hub of claim 67 wherein said load balancing ratio is calculated by determining an optimized load balancing ration for each of said video cards based on its graphics throughput.

Claim 76. (Currently amended) The video merger hub of claim ~~74~~ 67 wherein said load balancing ratio is dynamically adjusted to maximize the throughput of ~~said~~ ^{the} subsystem by utilizing a test feedback loop program which measures the load on each of said video cards and makes appropriate adjustments.